Blanket Exchange Permit Scheme for export promotion

635. SHRI SURENDRA SINGH THAKUR:

SHRI PRABHAKAR RAO KALVALA:

Will the Minster of FINANCE be please to state:

(a) whether Government have announced any scheme of blanket exchange permit for promotion of export;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) whether any such scheme has also been envisaged for "New Entrepreneurs"; and

(d) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI NARAYAN DATT TIWARI): (a) to (d) A Circular issued by the Reserve Bank of India on the subject is annexed [*See* Appendix CXLII, Annexure No. 26]

System for Technology forecast

636. SHRI SURENDRA SINGH THAKUR: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether any system for technology forecast has been devised by Government to meet the present and future requirements of technology in the country;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) what is Government's perspective planning for research and development to acquire the needed technology for the country on the basis of technology forecast?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir, The Government's is taking steps to strengtren technology forecasting mechanism and capabilities in the country by setting up an autonomous body 'Technology Information Forecasting & Assessment Council' (TIFAC) and sectoral Technology Information Forecasting and Assessment groups in various Ministeries/Agencies|Enterprises, including their network.

(c) The Government Departments are in the process of drawing Perspective Plans till the YR 2001 in respective areas of responsibility. Matched with technology forecast trends, the perspective plans will provide inputs for R & D/technology acquisition planning strategies.

Limit of Pay Scale for sanctioning G.P.F. advance for purchase of Motor Car

637. SHRI J. P. GOYAL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a Government employee drawing less than Rs. 1500/- as basic pay (prerevised) is not allowed to withdraw amount from his G.P.F. Account for booking a motor car and for purchasing it, whether new or old and that he is also not granted any advance by the Government for the purpose;

(b) if so, the main reasons thereof; and

(c) whether after the recommendations of the Fourth Pay Commission were accepted and implemented, Government have issued fresh